

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 EB-08 ACDA-12  
ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 HA-05 VO-05 CA-01 /135 W  
-----043154 250224Z /64

O 250205Z JUL 78 ZDK  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2648  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03002

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, RH  
SUBJECT: RHODESIA SANCTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 21:  
DISCUSSION OF HELMS AMENDMENT

REFS: (A) LONDON 11492, (B) STATE 49397

1. FOLLOWING A ROUTINE DISCUSSION OF CASES (SEPTTEL), THE  
RHODESIA SANCTIONS COMMITTEE TURNED ITS ATTENTION  
FRIDAY, JULY 21, TO THE FINAL AGENDA ITEM: WORKING  
PAPER 285 (DATAFAXED TO IO/UNP, ATTN: ESCUDERO). THIS  
PAPER CONTAINED A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED JULY 17 BY THE  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF  
AFRICAN UNITY TO THE UNITED NATIONS EXPRESSING "SHOCK AND  
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DISMAY" AT THE NEWS REPORTS OF THE PROPOSED HELMS  
AMENDMENT IN THE US SENATE WHICH CALLS FOR THE LIFTING  
OF SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA FOR SIX MONTHS. THE  
PRESS RELEASE CALLS FOR THE DEFEAT OF THE AMENDMENT,  
EXPRESSES FULL SUPPORT FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED  
STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM TO ACHIEVE AN INTERNATION-  
ALLY ACCEPTED SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA, AND CONCLUDES THAT:

"LIFTING OF SANCTIONS WOULD AMOUNT TO A DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT GOVERNMENT AND THUS MAKE SMITH AND HIS COLLABORATORS MORE INTRASIGENT". THE ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE OAU TO THE UNITED NATIONS, MUSRAFA SAM, WAS PRESENT AT THE REQUEST OF THE ACTING CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE AND UNDERLINED THESE POINTS.

2. US MISSION OFFICER (MILLER) REPLIED THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION SHARES THE OAU'S CONCERNS ABOUT THE HELMS AMENDMENT AND IS TOTALLY OPPOSED TO IT. HE QUOTED SECRETARY VANCE (REF A) AS STATING WITH REGARD TO THE AMENDMENT, "I CAN THINK OF REALLY NOTHING THAT WOULD BE MORE UNWISE AND MORE DANGEROUS THAN TO TAKE SUCH A STEP AT THIS TIME". HE BRIEFLY EXPLAINED THE US GOVERNMENT'S SYSTEM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES AND ASSURED THE COMMITTEE THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO DEFEAT THE AMENDMENT.

3. THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE THEN ASKED FOR THE FLOOR AND IN A SURPRISINGLY MODERATE STATEMENT SAID THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE ASSURANCES THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS MAKING EVERY EFFORT NOT TO ALLOW THE LIFTING OF SANCTIONS. HE PROPOSED THAT THE COMMITTEE SEND A LETTER TO THE US SENATE VOICING CONCERN AND GIVING THE COMMITTEE'S APPRAISAL OF THE IMPACT OF SUCH AN  
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AMENDMENT SHOULD IT BE PASSED. HE ADDED: "THIS SHOULD NO DOUBT BUTTRESS THE EFFORTS OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AS WELL". AFTER A LENGTHY TACTICAL DISCUSSION, THE COMMITTEE ACCEPTED A REFINEMENT OF THE SOVIET PROPOSAL: IT AGREED TO ISSUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE A PRESS RELEASE ON THE HELMS AMENDMENT AND TO DELIVER A COPY OF THAT RELEASE TO THE US MISSION FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE US GOVERNMENT. THE COMMITTEE EXPECTED THAT FOR LOGISTICAL REASONS THE RELEASE COULD NOT BE ISSUED BEFORE MONDAY, JULY 24. MISOFF CAREFULLY EXPLAINED THAT THE US COULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMITTEE'S DECISIONS REGARDING THE HELMS AMENDMENT AND TOOK NO PART IN THE SURROUNDING DISCUSSIONS. (THIS WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE PRESS RELEASE.) HE DID STATE HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE AMENDMENT WAS LIKELY TO COME TO A VOTE EARLY IN THE WEEK OF JULY 24 AND PERHAPS AS EARLY AS JULY 24.

4. IN THE COURSE OF THE MEETING, A NUMBER OF RELATED QUESTIONS CAME UP:

(A) WHY WAS BISHOP MUZOREWA GRANTED A VISA

FOR TRAVEL IN THE UNITED STATES? MISOFF REPLIED THAT HE HAD NO INFORMATION TO PROVIDE ON THAT QUESTION BUT THAT HE WOULD SUBMIT IT TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR A RESPONSE. A COMMITTEE MEMBER ALSO ASKED WHAT KIND OF A PASSPORT MUZOREWA WAS TRAVELLING ON, AND MISOFF REPLIED THAT HE WOULD SEEK AN ANSWER.

(B) A QUESTION WAS PUT CONCERNING PRESS REPORTS THAT IAN SMITH WOULD BE COMING TO THE UNITED STATES SHORTLY. MISOFF REPLIED THAT USG HAD SEEN THE SAME REPORTS BUT HAD NO FURTHER KNOWLEDGE OF ANY PLANS ON THE PART OF SMITH OR ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES.

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(C) WITH REGARD TO REPORTS THAT THE RHODESIA INFORMATION OFFICE (RIO) IN WASHINGTON WAS LOBBYING FOR THE HELMS AMENDMENT, THE QUESTION WAS RAISED WHY THE RIO IS STILL IN EXISTENCE. MISOFF REPEATED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF B, THAT THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO FULFILL THE TERMS OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 409 REGARDING THE RIO AND IS STUDYING THE BEST

WAY TO IMPLEMENT THEM. THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO SEND REMINDERS TO THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA OF PAST REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON ACTIONS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT RESOLUTION 409.

5. COMMENT. THE DISCUSSION IN THE SANCTIONS COMMITTEE  
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WAS SURPRISINGLY MODERATE IN TONE, PERHAPS BECAUSE OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S KNOWN OPPOSITION TO THE HELMS AMENDMENT. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE PROVIDE THE COMMITTEE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE INFORMATION REQUESTED ABOVE. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD NOTE THAT CONTINUING DELAY ON THE RIO QUESTION CARRIES THE POSSIBILITY OF MORE SERIOUS AFRICAN PRESSURE IN THE COMMITTEE, DEPENDING ON HOW THE ZIMBABWE NEGOTIATIONS FARE IN THE COMING PERIOD. END COMMENT. YOUNG

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## Message Attributes

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